

PATENTS
Attorney Docket No. 003443.0020.102
(STK-075CON)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

PATENT APPLICATION

Examiner : Ruixiang Li
Group Art Unit : 1646
Applicants : Hermann Oppermann, et al.
Application No. : 10/816,768 Confirmation No. : 3980
Filed : April 2, 2004
For : MODIFIED TGF- β SUPERFAMILY PROTEINS

New York, NY 10036
January 22, 2010

Hon. Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

REPLY AND AMENDMENT ACCOMPANYING
REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION

Sir:

In response to the September 8, 2009 Final Office Action and November 18, 2009 Advisory Action Before the Filing of an Appeal Brief, applicants request continued examination and provide the following remarks.

On November 9, 2009, applicants filed an Amendment And Reply To Final Office Action. The Examiner mailed an Advisory Action on November 18, 2009 stating that the proposed amendments raise new issues that would require further consideration and/or search.

Applicants submit concurrently herewith a Petition pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) and have paid the requisite fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(a)(2) to extend the time for replying for a period of two months. With the extension, a response is due on or before February 8, 2010. Thus, this Request for Continued Examination is timely filed.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 7 of this paper.